PTSBC

Annual Conference

October 23 & 24, 2026

The 20th Annual Pharmacy Technician Conference

The Pharmacy Technician Society of British Columbia is proud to bring you the 20th annual pharmacy technician conference, featuring dynamic speakers from diverse practice backgrounds with sessions relevant to pharmacy personnel in all practice settings.

Join us in-person at the River Rock Casino Resort in Richmond, BC, on **Friday, October 23rd** for a spectacular vendor exhibit, building your professional contacts, and enhancing your professional career path. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to earn valuable Continuing Education units! (The content of this conference has been submitted for review to the Canadian Council on Continuing Education in Pharmacy for accreditation; we anticipate approximately 6.5 accredited learning hours that can be used for your annual PDAP requirements). Conference registration deadline is **October 9th**, so register to save your spot today!

Agenda

Friday, October 23

5:15 PM	Doors Open
5:30 PM	Advancing Technician Practice: Exploring Career Laddering
6:15 PM	Vendor Exhibits Open
8:30 PM	Entertainment - The Impossible Hypnotist Scott Christie
9:15 PM	50/50 Draw
9:30 PM	DJ and Dancing

Saturday, October 24

7:30 AM	Hot Breakfast Buffet
8:30 AM	College Tech Talk 2026
9:15 AM	Practical Lessons for Navigating Indigenous Health Governance in BC
10:15 AM	Networking Break
10:45 AM	Resilience and Building My Moral Compass
11:30 AM	Mortar to Mask: Navigating the NAPRA Model Standards for Non-sterile Hazardous Compounding
12:15 PM	AGM / Awards / Lunch
1:00 PM	The Hidden Story of Your Cleanroom: Using Environmental Monitoring to Detect Risk Before It Reaches the Patient
1:45 PM	From Support to Impact: The Evolving Role of the Clinical Pharmacy Support Technician
2:30 PM	Networking Break / Heads and Tails Grand Prize Game
3:00 PM	The Success-Energy Equation
4:00 PM	Closing Remarks

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Official Conference Venue

River Rock Casino Resort, Whistler Ballroom
8811 River Road, Richmond BC V6X 3P8
Phone: (604) 273-1895

Accommodations need to be booked separately by the delegate. PTSBC has a block of guest rooms reserved for delegates & sponsors at the River Rock Casino Resort. Please ensure you have booked your accommodations by **September 23rd, 2026** in order to take advantage of the PTSBC rates. Rooms will be released back into the hotel inventory for general resale after this date. To book your accommodations, please use the link below:

Book Now!

Alternatively, you can also call the hotel to book a room. Please mention the group: **Pharmacy Technician Conference 2026 (2610PHARMA)** to ensure you receive the PTSBC rate.

Check in time: 4:00 PM
Check out time: 11:00 AM

Parking

Complimentary guest parking is available in the **West Parkade (Level P2 and above)**--simply drive past the RESERVED STALLS.

Dress Code

The dress code for the conference is business casual.

Event Photography

By attending the 20th Annual PTSBC Conference, you grant permission for your image to be photographed, recorded, and used by PTSBC for any lawful purpose, in any media format, now or in the future. You waive the right to inspect or approve the use of such photographs or recordings and acknowledge that no compensation will be provided for their use.

50/50 Tickets

Your 50/50 tickets will be ready for you at the event. Be sure to stay for the draw, as **the winner must be present to claim the prize when the winning ticket is announced.**

Receipts

Receipts will be available at the registration desk on the evening of the conference.

Questions

If you have any questions, please reach out to info@ptsbc.org.

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Prizes

Our conferences are renowned for incredible prizes and unforgettable experiences. Last year alone, we gave away over 30 amazing prizes worth more than $4,000! From gift cards to the latest tech like Apple AirPods & AirTags, educational grants, a mystery Grand Prize valued at $500, and a thrilling 50/50 draw, this is an event you don't want to miss!

Vendor Exhibits & Networking

Engage with top industry sponsors, grab some fantastic promotional items, and acquire essential knowledge about the latest innovative products. Savour delicious appetizers and refreshing beverages while mingling with fellow professionals at the premier annual gathering specifically designed for pharmacy technicians and assistants throughout the province.

Entertainment: Scott Christie, Impossible Hypnotist

What started as a fascination with the power of the mind has grown into a career that has entertained thousands of people across North America. Scott's shows combine professional stagecraft with hilarious, interactive comedy that puts the spotlight on the audience, making them the true stars of the evening. With over 30 years of stage experience and more than 1,150 shows performed, Scott's outrageous comedy hypnosis shows turn ordinary events into experiences that are remembered, keeping audiences laughing, engaged, and talking about events long after the show ends!

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Speaker Spotlight 2026

Master of Ceremonies: Atamjit Bassi (RPhT)
Atamjit is part of the Lower Mainland Pharmacy Services Quality Assurance Team in a non-traditional pharmacy technician role. She participates in developing, implementing, and evaluating quality, safety and innovative initiatives related to sterile compounding in Lower Mainland Pharmacy Services. She is passionate about changing status quo and continues to be involved in promoting professional growth for her fellow pharmacy technicians through education and networking opportunities. She has diverse experience working in a variety of roles in different pharmacy settings over the past 25 years including hospital and community practice. Atamjit joined the PTSBC in 2022.

Session Title: Operational Career Pathways for Pharmacy Technicians: A Framework for Growth
Speaker: Dana Lyons (RPhT)

Dana is a regulated pharmacy technician and manager with Alberta Health Services on the Provincial Operations Team. She supports province-wide initiatives to standardize medication distribution practices and strengthen operational consistency across the health system. Her current work includes leading a NAPRA infrastructure grant project renovating 21 hospitals to meet national sterile and non-sterile compounding standards by 2028, as well as supporting the design and build of a new Centralized Distribution Centre serving southern Alberta. She also co-chairs the provincial committee responsible for establishing the standards that guide medication distribution practice. She is also founding President and Operating Officer of Street Sisters Society, a registered charity supporting women experiencing homelessness, poverty, and exploitation. Dana previously served six years on the Council of the Alberta College of Pharmacy, including as President in 2021.

2026 PTSBC Member of the Year Award

Every year, we recognize a PTSBC member for their commitment to professionalism through excellence in pharmacy practice. If you know a technician who deserves recognition for making a difference, let us know by nominating them for the member of the year award! Submission deadline has been extended to October 9, 2026, 12:00pm. The winner will be announced at the annual conference and the honoree will receive a $300 cash award, free registration to attend the next PTSBC annual conference, and a one-night accommodation at the conference venue for the event. **Submit your nomination today!**

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Speaker Spotlight 2026

Session Title: College Tech Talk 2026
Speakers: Heather Biggar (BDSc, MSc, DHP)**, Ed Diaz** (RPhT)**, Vivian Dang** (RPhT)

Heather Biggar is the Deputy Registrar of the College of Pharmacists of BC. Prior to joining this College, Heather has held leadership positions in health regulation for the past 15 years, with 12 years as Deputy Registrar of the College of Dental Hygienists of BC, and a period as Acting Registrar. Heather currently leads the Registration and Licensure, Conduct, Inquiry and Remediation, and the Practice Review Program and Quality Assurance Departments at CPBC. Heather has a Bachelor of Dental Science Degree and a Master of Science in Oral Pathology from UBC as well as Certification in Change Management from the UBC Sauder School of Business. She has extensive experience in leading partnership engagements with varied objectives from national credentialing and assessment initiatives to local Indigenous-specific anti-racism efforts, developing influential relationships with partners both provincially and nationally.

Ed Diaz is a Practice Reviews / Quality Assurance Coordinator & Hospital Compliance Officer for the College of Pharmacists of BC. He completed the technician course in 2000 and became a regulated pharmacy technician in 2015. He has worked in community, hospital and long-term care pharmacy settings. Ed has been with the College since 2018.

Vivian Dang is the Registration and Licensure Coordinator for the College of Pharmacists of BC. She is a registered pharmacy technician and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Health Sciences from Simon Fraser University. Vivian has experience working at VGH and has also served as a Language Data Analyst at TransPerfect and a Student Analyst at the BC Centre for Disease Control, where she focused on project management, quality assurance, research, and data evaluation.

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Speaker Spotlight 2026

Session Title: Practical Lessons for Navigating Indigenous Health Governance in BC

Speakers: Jason Min (BSc(Pharm), PharmD, RPh)**, Larry Leung** (BSc(Pharm), PharmD, RPh)

Dr. Jason Min is an Associate Professor of Teaching at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia. He is the co-founder of the research lab, UPROOT, which supports decolonizing and Indigenizing efforts in pharmacy education, practice, and research. Jason's teaching and research interests also include psychiatry, interprofessional education, and he is currently Academic Lead for the national Academic Electronic Health Record (aEHR) application.

Dr. Larry Leung is an Associate Professor of Teaching at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia. He is the co-founder of the research lab, UPROOT, which supports decolonizing and Indigenizing efforts in pharmacy education, practice, and research. Dr. Leung is also the founder of the pharmacy education and research team BRAIN (Building Resources and Accessibility in Neurology), which offers free and accessible resources for individuals with Parkinson Disease.

Session Title: Resiliency and Building My Moral Compass

Speaker: Sherisse Knight (RPhT)

Sherisse has been a pharmacy technician for over 20 years, and has had the privilege of spending almost 10 years working for the Department of National Defence as a civilian pharmacy technician. In 2013, Sherisse joined Alberta Health Services as a casual technician and worked at many hospitals within the Edmonton Zone. She spent 3 years as the Operations Manager at the Royal Alexandra Hospital Pharmacy in Edmonton, and is now a Technical Practice and Safety Leader with Acute Care Alberta.

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Speaker Spotlight 2026

Session Titles: Mortar to Mask: Navigating the NAPRA Model Standards for Non-sterile Hazardous Compounding & The Hidden Story of Your Cleanroom: Using Environmental Monitoring to Detect Risk Before It Reaches the Patient

Speaker: Melanie Dorey (RPhT)

Melanie is a pharmacy compounding subject matter expert and the co-owner of Critical Compounding Resources where she provides consulting, compliance guidance, and training to sterile and non-sterile compounding facilities across Canada and the United States. With two decades of front-line hospital experience at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, she has established deep expertise in aseptic technique, hazardous drug handling, clean room operations, and regulatory compliance aligned with USP <797>, USP <800>, and NAPRA Model Standards.

Melanie has also served as faculty and content developer for national training programs, including at CriticalPoint LLC and Kastango Consulting Group, where she led live on-site training and contributed to eLearning design, competency assessments, and best practice resources. As an active educator and industry advocate, Melanie frequently speaks at national pharmacy conferences and has authored several published works on sterile compounding, hazardous drug safety, and pharmacy workforce development. Fully bilingual in English and French, she is driven by a mission to elevate patient safety and professional excellence by empowering pharmacy personnel with practical, high-quality education and support.

Session Title: The Success-Energy Equation

Speaker: Michelle Cederberg

Michelle is a health and productivity expert for over 20 years who has captivated audiences across North America with her empowering and humorous messages that educate busy, driven professionals on how to set chase-worthy goals, revive energy, and ignite high performance. As an in-demand author, coach, and consultant, she believes that success is directly influenced by how well we harness the physical, mental, and emotional capacity we each have within us. Michelle holds a Masters in Kinesiology, a BA in Psychology, a specialization in Health & Exercise Psychology, is a Certified Speaking Professional, Certified Exercise Physiologist, and a High-Performance Coach. In 2023 she was inducted into the Canadian Speaking Hall of Fame, and is the author of four books. Her latest publication "The Success-Energy Equation" debuted as a bestseller and helps to revolutionize the idea that burnout and stress don't have to be part of success.

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Speaker Spotlight 2026

Session Title: From Support to Impact: The Evolving Role of the Clinical Pharmacy Support Technician
Speakers: Vincent H. Mabasa (PharmD, FCSHP)**, Jenny Dieu Nguyen** (RPhT)

Vincent obtained his Post Graduate Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of British Columbia in 2006. He is currently the clinical pharmacy coordinator at Burnaby General Hospital and has a clinical practice in the Intensive Care Unit. He is a Clinical Associate Professor at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of British Columbia and most recently served as the CSHP-BC Branch President from 2020 to 2023.

Jenny is a Registered Pharmacy Technician with experience across both community and hospital pharmacy settings. She began her career as a pharmacy assistant before becoming a Regulated Pharmacy Technician in 2019. She recently transitioned into a clinical role, where she primarily focuses on Best Possible Medication Histories (BPMH). Her experience across different areas of pharmacy has given her a broad and practical perspective on medication management, pharmacy practice, and patient care. Outside of pharmacy, she is also a performer and teacher who enjoys sharing her passion for the arts through teaching and performing in local shows.

PharmacyTechnician
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Conference Sponsors

We are thrilled to have the ongoing support of industry sponsors who contribute funding to help cover conference expenses. This support enables us to maintain reasonable registration fees for attendees. Our industry sponsors are eager to engage with pharmacy professionals and offer valuable product and service insights. Don't miss the chance to enhance your networking opportunities, grab some swag, and enter for a chance to win prizes by visiting their booths during the Friday networking session. The Conference Committee extends its heartfelt gratitude to all the sponsors listed on this page for their generous contributions to our annual event. Your support of the PTSBC and the profession is greatly appreciated. Thank you!